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STATE PASS USTR FOR DAWN SHACKLEFORD
COMMERCE FOR MAC/PAUL DACHER

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TAGS: [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [UK](#) [EU](#)

SUBJECT: FUTURE U.S.-UK AND U.S.-EU TRADE COOPERATION TO CENTER ON INNOVATION, COMPETITIVENESS

Classified By: Economic Minister Counselor Richard Albright for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[¶1.](#) (SBU) Europe, International Trade and Development Director at the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Claire Durkin discussed the UK's trade priorities and the future of the U.S.-UK trade relationship. Durkin highlighted the importance of innovation and competitiveness in the future of the U.S.-UK relationship. She also discussed the potential for a future Conservative government to change the UK's trade policy.

[¶2.](#) (SBU) EMIN noted U.S. concerns about insufficient market access commitments by key emerging market countries in contrast to the EU's apparent commitment to open markets. Durkin stated that the UK is committed to a rules-based trading system and that the UK will continue to work with the EU to promote trade and investment.

[¶3.](#) (SBU) Competitiveness and innovation will be key issues in future U.S.-UK engagement in the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) as well as in the U.S.-EU Trade Cooperation to Center on Innovation, Competitiveness (TCCIC).

[¶4.](#) (C) Asked about trade priorities of a future Conservative government, Durkin stated her belief that despite their "arms-length" approach to trade, the UK will continue to work with the EU to promote trade and investment.

[¶5.](#) (SBU) Durkin was pleased with constructive meetings at State and USTR during her October 13 trip to Washington. She is looking for ways to build on these meetings and to work together to promote trade and investment between the U.S. and the UK.